

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below. Please cancel claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (New) An information processing apparatus comprising:

an input unit configured to input product data; and

a determining unit configured to determine that a product is a genuine product when the determining unit determines that the product data input by the input unit includes first information and second information, determining that the product is a counterfeit product when the determining unit determines that the product data input by the input unit includes the first information and does not include the second information, and determining that the product is neither a genuine product nor a counterfeit product when the determining unit determines that the product data input by the input unit does not include the first information and the second information.

23. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the product determined to be neither a genuine product nor a counterfeit product includes a third party product.

24. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the first information includes information of an image that is protected by an intellectual property right.

25. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the information of the image that is protected by the intellectual property right includes

information of an image comprising a registered trademark held by a manufacturer of the genuine product.

26. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the second information includes information of an image unique to a genuine product.

27. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the second information is written in a micro-character.

28. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising a notification unit configured to notify another terminal of a determination result obtained by the determining unit.

29. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein when the determining unit determines that a product is a counterfeit product, the notification unit notifies a counterfeit-product's regulatory authority terminal of the determination result.

30. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the product includes toner for a printer.

31. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising a storage unit configured to store the determination result obtained by the determining unit and user information inputted by the input unit.

32. (New) An information processing method comprising:
an inputting step of inputting product data;
a first determining step of determining whether the product data input in the inputting step includes first information;
a second determining step of determining whether the product data input in the inputting step includes second information; and

a third determining step of determining whether the product is a genuine product, a counterfeit product or neither a genuine product nor a counterfeit product, in accordance with a determination result in the first determining step and the second determining step.

33. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, wherein the product determined to be neither a genuine product nor a counterfeit product includes a third party product.

34. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, wherein the first information includes information of an image that is protected by an intellectual property right.

35. (New) The information processing method according claim 34, wherein the information of the image that is protected by the intellectual property right includes information of an image including a registered trademark held by a manufacturer of the genuine product.

36. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, wherein the second information includes information of an image unique to a genuine product.

37. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, wherein the second information is written in a micro-character.

38. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, further comprising a notifying step of notifying another terminal of the determination result obtained in the third determining step.

39. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, wherein when it is determined that the product is the counterfeit product in the third determining step, the determination result is notified to the counterfeit-product's regulatory authority

terminal.

40. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, wherein the product includes toner for a printer.

41. (New) The information processing method according to claim 32, further comprising a storing step of storing the determination result obtained in the third determining step and user information inputted in the inputting step.

42. (New) A computer readable storage medium that stores a program module for executing an information processing method, the program module comprising:

an inputting step of inputting product data;

a first determining step of determining whether the product data input in the inputting step includes first information;

a second determining step of determining whether the product data input in the inputting step includes second information; and

a third determining step of determining whether the product is a genuine product, a counterfeit product or neither a genuine product nor a counterfeit product, in accordance with a determination result in the first determining step and the second determining step.